Docket No.

9491-047-27

pc 1 5 2000;

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICI

IN RE APPLICATION OF: DOMINICK V. SINICROPI, ET AL. GAU:

1655

EXAMINER: FORMAN, B

SERIAL NO:

09/449,204

FILING DATE: NOVEMBER 24, 1999

FOR:

PCR ASSAY

AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

This Amendment is submitted in answer to the Office Action dated July 7, 2000, which set a three month period for response. Thus, this Amendment is timely filed on October 10, 2000, October 7, 2000 being a Saturday, October 8, 2000 being a Sunday, and October 9, 2000 being a federal holiday within the District of Columbia.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete the specification in its entirety and insert the substitute specification attached hereto.

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Amended) A method for quantitating or detecting the presence of a target compound in a sample which may contain the target compound, comprising: